Numb. 4.

# The British Apollo,

OR,

## *Curious Amuſements for the INGENIOUS.*

To which are added the moſt

## Material Occurrences Foreign and Domeſtick.

*Perform'd by a Society of GENTLEMEN.*

From **Friday** February 20th, to **Wedneſday** February 25th. 1708.

THis Paper will be duely continued on *Wedneſdays* and *Fridays*, according to the Method herein begun; In which we ſhall endeavour to anſwer all Queſtions in Divinity, Philoſophy, the Mathematicks, and other Arts and Sciences, which appear fit and worthy to be anſwer'd; Alſo inſert Poems on various Subjects and Occaſions, both Serious and Comical, Compos'd New purpoſely for the Paper; which ſhall be deliver'd at all Perſons Houſes within the Bills of Mortality, who ſhall require it, at two Shillings a Quarter; not to be paid till the End of the Quarter, and to be relinquiſh'd at Pleaſure, and ſuch as ſhall take it within the Quarter, a proportionable Deduction ſhall be made on the following Quarter-Day.

All Perſons are deſir'd to ſend their Letters, whether with Queſtions or Subſcriptions for the Paper, either to Mr. *W. Keble* in *Weſtminſter-Hall*, Mr. *Tho. Bickerton*, at the *Golden Flower-de-luce* in St. *Paul's Church-Yard*, or to the Printer, whoſe Name you will find at the End of the Paper, and to Superſcribe them for the *Britiſh Apollo*. At which Places alſo Advertiſements are taken in at half a Crown each, if of moderate length (thoſe from Quacks excepted) they may alſo be deliver'd to the Men, in their Walks.

☞ Note, that the whole Paper will be New every time it comes out, and that this Deſign was encourag'd by ſeveral Perſons of Quality, and others of the brighteſt Parts, before it was Publiſh'd, ſince which great Numbers of Subſcribers come daily in.

## Solutions of the following Queſtions.

Q. Gentlemen, *How old, and from whence is the Cuſtom of Throwing at Cocks on* Shrove-Tueſday *?*

*A.* There are ſeveral different Opinions, concerning the Original of this Cuſtom——But we are moſt inclin'd to give Credit to one *Cranenſtein*, an old *German* Author———Who ſpeaking of the Cuſtoms obſerv'd by the Chriſtian Nation gives us the following Account of the Original Inſtitution of this Ceremony.

When the *Danes* were Maſters of *England*, and Lorded it over the Natives of the Iſland, the Inhabitants of a certain great City, grown weary of their Slavery, had form'd a ſecret Conſpiracy, to murder their Maſters in one bloody Night; and 12 Men had undertaken to enter the Town houſe by a Stratagem and ſeizing the Arms, ſurprize the Guard which kept it; at which time their Fellows, upon a Signal given, were to come out of their Houſes and murder all Oppoſers: But when they were putting it in Execution, the unuſual crowing and fluttering of the Cocks, about the Place they attempted to enter at, diſcover'd their Deſign, upon which the *Danes* became ſo inrag'd, that they doubled their Cruelty and us'd them with more ſeverity than ever: Soon after they were forced from the Daniſh Yoak, and to revenge themſelves on the Cocks, for the Misfortune they involv'd them in, Inſtituted this Cuſtom of knocking them on the Head on *Shrove-Tueſday*, the Day on which it happen'd; This Sport, tho' at firſt, only practic'd in one City, in proceſs of time became a National Diverſiſement, and has continued ever ſince the *Danes* firſt loſt this Iſland.

Q. Gentlemen, *I beg the favour of you, to tell me in your Next, the Cauſe of Tears, and whether it be an eaſe or ſatisfaction to the Mind, to weep much for the loſs of a Friend, or on any other occaſion ?*

*A.* This Queſtion, like many others, came attended with repeated deſires of an Anſwer in our next Paper, but our Queriſts muſt pardon us if our Solutions are ſomewhat ſlower than their Expectations, we aſſure them, they ſhall all be ſerv'd in their turns, and we are oblig'd by the Number of our Queſtions, to proceed regularly to avoid Confuſion. But to the Subject——'Tis the Opinion of our Society, that Tears are caus'd by a great and ſudden Diſorder in the Blood, which is tranſmitted thro' the proper Atteries, from the Heart, to the Glands of the Eyes——from whence (there ſeperated from the Blood) they are diſtill'd in ſmall drops, thro' ſeveral Minute Pores——and guſhing violently from the corners of the Eyes——diſcharge the Body of a troubleſome Gueſt——and muſt conſequently afford an extraordinary Eaſe to an afflicted Mind——on whatever Occaſion it becomes diſorder'd———

Q. *Whether it be lawful to wear Patches ?*

*A.* You will 5nd a Solution of the Queſtion in the *Athenian Oracle*, Vol. I. Page 144. But ſince there is a remarkable Scripture-paſſage very pertinent to your Caſe, and not taken notice of by thoſe Ingenious Gentlemen, we beg leave to inſiſt upon it. If it be lawful to wear Gold and Jewels, by parity of reaſon, it is lawfnl alſo to wear Patches. But againſt the former, ſome alledge the 2 *Peter* 3. 34. where the Apoſtle thus addreſſes himſelf to married

Women: whoſe adorning, let it not be that outward adorning of wearing of Gold, &c. but let it be the hidden man of the heart, even the Ornament of a meek and quiet Spirit, but that the Prohibition is not abſolute but reſtrictive, that it condemns not the uſe, but the abuſe of Gold; that it only forbids Women to prefer an External to an Internal Ornament, to the Ornament of a meek and quiet Spirit; that it does no more than this, is evident, from the immediately ſucceeding Verſe, where the manner of thoſe Holy Women, who were in old time, of which *Rebeckah* was undoubtedly one, is recommended to their Practice, And yet we read *Gen.* 24. 53. the Servant brought forth Jewels of Silver, and Jewels of Gold and gave them to *Rebeckah*. We therefore conclude it lawful to wear Patches, if done with Moderation, if ſeparate from Pride and Vanity, if ſuited to the Age and Station of the Perſons wearin them.

Thus Patches may be worn without a Spot;
They, who the Uſage cenſure, make the blot.

Q. Gentlemen, *You are deſired to reſolve this Queſtion in your next——becauſe there's a Wager laid about it.*

*What is the reaſon why (When a Woman Cuckolds her Husband) the Child is commonly like the Father?*——

*A.*——Pray——who ſhou'd a Child reſemble ſooner than his Father? But perhaps the Queriſt, ſomewhat in haſt to be fingering his Wager, has miſtook the right Staring his Queſtion——If he would know why a Child begotten in Adultery, is commonly like the Husband of the Adultreſs? 'Tis our Opinion, that this ſeldom happens to any, but Women of a very timorous Nature —— who being touch'd in the Action, with a deep Senſe of the Enormity of the Crime they are then committing, have their Thoughts attentively fix'd on the Perſon of their abſent Husbands, ſo that a likeneſs of Form is ſtamp'd upon the Child then begotten, by the active force of a powerful Imagination.

Q. *By what Power is it, that Spirits or Apparitions (which are but Shadows) can lift or move any heavy body.*

*A.* Were Spirits but mere Shadows, they cou'd not move heavy bodies at all: But when they are ſo call'd, it is meant only of thoſe External Appearances, which immaterial Subſtances aſſume. But by what Power an Immaterial Subſtance Acts, upon Matter, is a Queſtion as yet unask'd, and *Apollo* never loves to be impertinent.

Q. *Why does God prohibit all manner of Images, and yet permit them in the* Sanctum Sanctorum *in form of Cherubims?*

*A.* The firſt part of the 2d Commandment bears a neceſſary relation to the ſucceeding part, and therefore when in one Place it is ſaid, Thou ſhalt not make unto thee any graven image, &c and in another, Thou ſhalt not bow down thy ſelf to them, nor ſerve them; the meaning is, as tho' it were thus expreſt, Thou ſhalt not make unto thee any graven image, with intention to bow thy ſelf to it, and ſerve it. And ſince it is expreſly ſaid, Thou ſhalt not make to thy ſelf any likeneſs of any thing, that is in the Earth beneath. We muſt either admit of the Relation, or allow it to be unlawful for a Man to ſit for his Picture,

Q. *Whether Sage of Virtue infuſed, be wholeſomer than Indian Tea?*

*A.* Bohe-Tea hath the Præeminence, as Corroborating the Stomach, helping the Concoction of Aliments, and Cholick Pains, in the expelling of Wind. Green Tea helps the ſuppreſſion of Urine, in the free excretion of it; which are much more Efficacious Properties than are in Sage, &c.

Q. *Why Nettles raiſe Bliſters?*
*A. It is anſwer'd in the* Athenian Oracle, Vol. I. Page 182.

# POEMS.

Q. *SOns of the Delian God, if ſuch you are,*
*Pardon a Friends advice, nor blame his care,*
*If on your Fathers wings you ſafely fly,*
*I'll not preſume to think, you ſoar too high,*
*But if you hope like the raſh* Phaeton,
*To rule the headſtrong Horſes of the Sun,*
*Tell me——in ſtriving thus beyond your ſtrength,*
*Do you not fear a fall like his at length?*

*A.* We neither fear, nor can we feel his fate,
Nor is our danger, or our Pride ſo great,
Singly he ſtrove to keep his Fathers Place,
And curb his fiery Horſes in their Race,
More humbly we——*united*——ſtrive to gain,
An honour he alone cou'd ne'r obtain,
From Steeds like thoſe, one Rider well may fall,
But we with many hands command 'em all.

Q. *Is ſelf-defence a Law of Nature?*

*A.* For all but ſuch a ſilly Creature,

Q. *Some Fiſh have Scales——and others None,——*
*Pray ſolve this——for* Samuel Gun?

*A.* 'Twas order'd *Sam.* by our All-wiſe Creator--
That different Marks ſhou'd ſhow a different Nature,
Thus ſome know *much*, that ſome know *leſs* does follow
Elſe why ſhould'ſt thou - O *Sam.*-- addreſs *Apollo.*

## To the Sons of *Apollo.*

Q. *If to* Apollo's *Smiles you've juſt pretence,*
*And claim from him your boaſted Influence,*
*O tell a doubtful and enquiring fair,*
*The reaſon why her Sex ſo open are,*
*Why Secrets in their Breaſts no ſafesy find?*
*And why their Vows are fleeting as the Wind?*
*Your ſpeedy Anſwer will much oblige* D. P:

*A.* Your outward Beauties, inward Thoughts betray,
As Men thro' Curtains ſee the breaking Day,
But ſure, you ſometimes keep the Vows you make,
And Men accuſe you by a groſs miſtake,
Your faults are doubled by your being Fair,
White Cloth ſhows Spots much larger than they are,
And flaws, moſt deep, in brighteſt Gems appear.

Q. Apollo *You will write in Vain Sir,*
*'Till twenty* Orphans *you Maintain Sir,*
*A* College *build and keep* Exchange *Sir,*
*And fill your Sheets with others Brains Sir,*
*Tho' writ as if they had the Mange Sir,*
*'Till theſe great Things you do attain Sir,*
*How will the Money flow amain Sir,* ?
*Or ſet your Coach up by the Gains Sir.* ?

*A.* Shou'd we for Twenty take the Care Sir,
And after turn them out all bare Sir,

Or

Or keep *Exchange* to make your Stare Sir,
Or promiſe College to prepare Sir,
Like building Caſtles in the Air Sir,
Or make, of others Scraps, your Fare Sir,
The World will ſay, nay, they will ſwear Sir,
We either Knaves, or Blockheads are Sir.

Q. *My humble Muſe an Inſect Subject takes,*
*Pray tell me how a Fly her buzzing makes,*
*Search not the Cauſe in Wing's or Head dear Cuz,*
*For theſe pluckt off You'll find Her Hum and Buzz ?*
*A.* How ill your humble Muſe and Pride agree,
Pray how came you *Apollo*'s Kin to be ?
Tell us the cauſe of this O Muſhroom CUZ,
And you ſhall know why headleſs Inſects BUZZ.

## To the Sons of *Apollo.*

Q. *Say, if* Apollo *and no other*
*Your Father is, pray who's your Mother ?*
*A.* The Gods all Female help diſdain,
Thus *Pallas* iſſu'd from *Jove*'s Brain.

## *An Ode on Friendſhip.*

Friendſhip——thou Plant of tedious groth,
Thou Harmony of Souls——
Thro' *thee* Seraphick Pleaſure rowls,
In Riſe thou imitat'ſt the God of ſloth.
Tender in Youth, thy tim'rous Branches ſhoot,
By cautious Inches from thy root,
But when thy full-grown height has grac'd thy Pride,
And tall maturity has crown'd thy ſtate,
Each Leaf becomes a Feather on thy ſide,
And mounts thee on the Wings of fate,
Till that which hardly grew in Years before,
One Moment loſes, and 'tis found no more.

## *An Imitation of* Horace, Lib. 1. Ode 11.
### Ad Leuconoen.
### Tu ne quæſieris ſcire, &c.

Deſiſt, my Friend, to ſearch the great Decree,
Where Heaven hath Periods fix'd for me and thee.
Nor, Buoy'd by Aſtral Schemes, preſume to ſhun
The various Turns, through Mortal Stages run,
Or let a Train of Winters ſwell my Score,
Or let this prove my Laſt, which Rends the *Britiſh* Shore.
Cheer up, let ſparkling Wines your Glaſſes crown,
Stale hopes of Life, let Bliſsful Minutes drown.
Our Envious Years are hurrying as we ſpeak,
Of Preſent Moments then Advantage take,
Nor vain Accounts on future Seaſons make.

## *To a young Lady on her firſt Attempt in* Poetry.

With deep ſurprize, and boundleſs Pleaſure too,
I read the Verſes, Madam, writ by you,
Read, and admir'd your fancy in each Line,
Which ſhows your Genius Suits your great Deſign,
Go on Bright Maid, nor fear a juſt applauſe,
For Wit and Beauty give the *Critick* Laws,
Think not thy Youth can make thy Merit leſs,
Increaſing Years will double thy Succeſs,
The Sun himſelf when firſt his Glories riſe,
With feeble Brightneſs guilds the Eaſtern Skyes,
But ſoon, thro' Heav'ns vaſt Orb, with ſpreading
(luſtre flyes.

## *The Ingenuous Confeſſion.*

*Strephon.* My *Silvia*'s Love alone has gain'd
My Vows, and ſhe my Goddeſs reign'd,
But now I'm forc'd to bid adieu,
My *Silvia*, both to Love and you.
*Silvia.* Am I leſs Fair in *Strephon*'s Eyes;
That he ſhou'd now my Love diſpiſe ?
*Stre.* You ſtill appear as fair and bright,
As are unſulli'd Beams of Light.
*Sil.* Has Defamation rais'd your Scorn ?
*Stre.* Chaſt as the Bluſhes of the Morn:
*Sil.* Then *Strephon* has another Love,
And's falſe to me. *Stre.* Nor that by Jove,
I am not falſe to you, but may,
Nay muſt be, if I longer ſtay,
My *Silvia* then to clear the Doubt,
I've Lov'd my Stock of Love quite out.

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## Foreign News, *&c.*

*Hague*, February 23d.

BY Advices from Vienna, We are inform'd that Prince Ragotski threatens the Hugarians who continue in their Allegiance to the Emperour, with Fire and Sword ; particularly the Lands of the Palatine, becauſe he was one of the firſt who preſs'd for the calling of a Diet. And that the Turks continue their Preparations for War, and 'tis ſaid with more aſſurance now, that thoſe Preparations are inteuded againſt the Muſcovites, of which we expect a Confirmation by the Arrival of the next Holland Poſt.

We hear from Poland, that the Swedes have defeated ſeveral Parties of the Muſcovites, whom they met in their way to the Camp at Corcino, where they now are ; and that the King of Sweeden would give no Quarter to any, and that all the Boors who were taken under Arms, were hang'd by his Majeſties Order, which made ſo great a Confuſion amongſt them, that they hardly thought themſelves ſecure by flight ; upon which Parties were immediately diſpatch'd to burn all the Houſes, but at the ſame time 'tis ſtrongly reported that his Majeſty will proceed no further for ſome time, being reſolv'd to march directly to the Enemy, and not to fatigue his Troops in Parties, being inform'd that the Czar of Muſcovy's Deſign was only to harraſs his Troops by that Artifice, and afterwards to expect him with his whole Army, and fight him at Grodno.

'Tis Confirm'd that Porto Hercole on the Coaſt of Tuſcany has ſurrendred to the Imperialiſts, as alſo the whole Principality of Piombino.

We hear from Turin, that the Duke of Savoy has 20000 Men of his own Troops ready to joyn the Allies, and that he has ſent a Detachment to cover the Country about Pignerol.

From the *Hague*, That the Duke of Orleans departed from Paris on the 23d for Spain, and that he

has taken with him a Million of Livers in Ready Money, and as much in Jewels, to make use of on Occasion; the said Duke is to have 500000 Livers per Month for his Houshold, and 400000 every quarter, for the use of the War, the Spaniards being to furnish the rest for the French Troops.

We hear, that the Duke of Vendome is to command on the Moselle, but this wants Confirmation. 'Tis likely we may hear of a bloody Battle between the Czar and the King of Sweden, the latter being march'd with his whole Army against the Muscovites.

We have little material from Brabant, which gives birth to various Reports, concerning the intended Expedition of the French, against England and Holland, and 'tis believ'd by some, that the French will not draw off that 20000 Men from Flanders, since it is highly probable they may find business enough fos them in a little time. There is a Report that the King of Sweeden intends to dethrone the Czar of Muscovy, and to advance the Prince his Son to the Throne, which wou'd be very acceptable to the Malecontents, who are very Numerous in Muscovy.

'Tis rumour'd that Monsieur Chamillard first Minister of State to the French King, is in disgrace, and that another is advanc'd to that Employ, but our next Letters must inform us of the Truth and Reason of this Report.

*London.* Sir Jeffery Jefferys, Collonel of the Yellow Regiment of Train Bands of this City, resign'd his Commission on Fryday last, being piqu'd that the Officers he had nam'd to command under him, were refus'd by the Lieutenancy. And 'tis said Sir Charles Peers is chosen Collonel of the said Regiment.

We hear, that all the Flag-Officers are gone to the several Ports of this Kingdom, in order to fit out a strong Squadron of Men of War, to oppose the French in case they should attempt any thing against this Kingdom, or any of the Allies, and 'tis said, the Squadron will be ready in a few days. We are also inform'd that the States of Holland are fitting out between 25 and 30 Men of War to joyn Ours, by which means 'tis presum'd their Design will be prevented, which as 'tis Reported, was, to keep Sir John Leake from going to the Streights, but the Admiral sail'd with the Fleet under his Command last Saturday, but 'tis fear'd he was forc'd back, the Wind coming about to S. W. They take all the Seamen they can find to put on board the Men of War, and all the Troops in this Kingdom are order'd to be ready to march on the first Command. 'Tis also said, that Her Majesty'y Life-Guards are to be in a readiness to march upon that Occasion.

## The Course of the *EXCHANGE*, and other Things.

*London, Tuesday* the 24 of *February*, 1708.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Amsterdam | 34 | 2 a 3 |
| Rotterdam | 34 | 2 a 4 |
| Antwerp | 34 | |
| Hamburgh | 33 | 2 a 3 |
| Leghorn | 57 | |
| Genoua | 57 | ½ a ½ |
| Venice | 54 | |
| Lisbon | 5 | 2 ¼ |
| Porto | 5 | 2 |
| Dublin | 8 | |
| Colch. Cr. Bays | 13 *d. per Ell* & 6 *d. per Pc.* | |

Note, *These were the Prices of Stocks, from Twelve to Two of the Clock.*

| | *Sat.* | *Mon.* | *Tues.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| Bank Stock | 117 ½ | 117 ½ a ¾ | 117 ½ |
| Old India | 109 | 109 ½ | 109 ¼ |
| African | 9 ½ | 9 ½ | 9 ½ |
| Mill. Bank | 83 | 83 | 83 |
| New Com. | 259 ½ | 259 ½ | 259 ½ |
| Shares | 9 | 8 ⅞ | 8 ½ |
| Irish Lands | 58 ½ | 58 ½ | 58 ⅞ |
| Mine Shar. | 18 ½ | 18 ½ | 18 ½ |

*The 86th Payment of* Malt-Lottery *Tickets are now in course of Payment.*

*In the* Exchequer.

| Int. | | *Given for* | *Paid off.* |
|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | 6th 4 Shilling Aid | 1800000 | 1793600 |
| 5 | 8th 4 Shilling Aid | 1850000 | 1822459 |
| 5 | 9th 4 Shillings Aid | 1850000 | 1775082 |
| 5 | 10th 4 Shilling Aid | 1850000 | 815486 |
| 8 | 1st 3 Shilling Aid | 1500000 | 1076901 |
| 7 | 3d 3 Shilling Aid | 1400000 | 1374228 |
| 5 | 2d 2 Shilling Aid | 933333 | 920800 |
| 6 | ⅔ 4th 3 Shill. Aid | 933333 | 911250 |
| 8 | 3 Quar. Pol | 500000 | 289496 |
| 8 | Paper for Plate | 30000 | 14600 |
| 7 | Cos. Act and Leath. | 564700 | 142262 |
| 8 | Coals, 1698 | 500000 | 485000 |
| 6 | Coals, 1703 | 500000 | 463439 |
| 5 | Malt, 1707 | 65000 | 649710 |
| 6 | Low-Wines, 1705 | 700000 | 93960 |
| 6 | ⅔ Subsidies, 1705 | 636957 | 247930 |

Yesterday being an Holiday, we could not get the List of the Goods Imported and Exported, but tho not Recollecting it, we did not send for them the Day before, Care will be taken for the Future.

## *ADVERTISEMENTS,*

Just Published,

*** Camillus: A Poem, Humbly Inscrib'd to the Right Honourable Charles Earl of Peterborough and Monmouth, upon his Glorious Actions in Spain. By Aaron Hill, Gent. Printed for Tho. Bickerton, at the Golden Flower-de-Luce, in St. Pauls Church-Yard. Price 6 d.

Just Published,

†‡† Moral Reflections, upon Select English Proverbs: Familiarly Accommodated, to the Humours and Manners of the Present Age. By Oswel Dykes, Gent. Formerly of Queens College Oxon. Printed for G. S. and Sold by Tho. Bickerton, at the Golden Flower-de-Luce, in St. Pauls Courch-Yard. Price 4 s. 6 d.

†‡† Conciliorum Omnium Generalium et Provincialium Collectio Regina. Printed at Paris Anno. MDCXLIIII. in 37 Vollums, with an Index to the Whole Curiously Bound in Red Turkey Leather Gilt, with the King of Frances's own Armes, Neatly Worked of on each Vollum in Gold. It is the Neatest and Fairest Book that is in England. This Book may be seen by all Gentlemen, at *W. Kebles*, at the *Black Spread Eagle*, in *Westminster-Hall*.

LOST on the 13th a little White Italian Greyhound, with a Collar on, and M. V. in a Cypher, with a Coronet ingrav'd thereon: Who ever brings it to *R. Vincent*, Esq; by the New Play-house shall have a Guinea Reward.

THis is to give Notice to all Gentlemen, Officers, and Others, who are Lovers of Art and Ingenuity, that at the Booth on *Little-Tower-Hill*, is now to be seen, *A New Invented Millitary Ingen*, which Carries 72 Guns, and is able to Shelter a 100 Men from the Danger of the Enemy, it turns to the Right and Left as Quick as a Single Person, it opens 20 Foot Wide, and Carries some Hundred Charges of Powder and Ball, and makes the Truest Firing Imaginable, there is 2 Great Guns on each Side with a very Quick Presentment, it Closes all up in a very Narrow Compass. The whole Piece of Work being near a 1000 Weight, and is drawn by 2 Horses, Challenging all Christendom to show the like Ingenuity; A further Description of it will be given at the Place aforesaid.

Printed for the Authors, by *J. Mayo*, at the *Printing-Press*, against *Water-Lane*, in *Fleet-street*. Where Advertisements are Taken in.